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PET-based analysis of tumor glucose metabolism and tumor hypoxia before and during anti-neoplastic treatment

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July 2009. A Thursday (I guess) evening around 8:00 pm, in a cosy Mexican restaurant, Poznan, Poland, I was partying with the European cancer organization co-fellow students. Everything started there, the long pathway that now reaching its end, my PhD degree. During that evening, an elegantly looking Professor joined us for a drink. It all started with a casual meeting asking us what we were studying. Where do we come from? How about the ECCO course? And so on...initially we were a bit reluctant to prolong the conversation; after all we were in a party mood. Very soon he changed his questions asking questions like, any interesting sites to visit in Poznan? What is the best beer in Poznan? And we went on discussing many interesting issues during that evening.

The course schedule for the next day afternoon was devoted to Radiation oncology. I was curious about the subject. Our professor took the stage and gave a nice presentation. During the lunch session, I approached him to get acquaintance and he said his name was Hans. That's how I met Prof. J.A. Langendijk. At the end of the course, he encouraged all medical students in our group to pursue a PhD to understand oncology field both from clinical and research perspective, which inspired me to apply for a PhD position. Dear Hans, thank you for giving me the possibility to come here and experience scientific research. Thanks for believing in me. Thanks for guiding me in my scientific growth, for pushing me when it was needed. Thanks for leaving me alone sometimes, but always keeping an eye on me, so I could explore different possibilities. Thanks for always caring of how things were going. Thanks for your golden line "There should be one question and one answer to that specific question" while writing a scientific paper. Your consistent support is encouraging me to go further. I will always remain indebted. Thank you very much.

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